

the surface of the ground. A rather difficult disease to cope with and one that requires prompt attention when it strikes the strawberry bed, is the leaf-rust, it seems to attack some varieties more than others and its presence may always be known by the spotted appearance of the leaves, its effect is most noticeable on the old beds, the young plants appearing to have more vigor to withstand it, but it may in a large measure be overcome by the systematic application of Bordeaux Mixture.

Strawberry culture is one of the departments of horticulture which allows plenty of scope for experiment, and those who engage in it will find themselves richly repaid for any extra attention which they may bestow upon it, both in the satisfaction felt at having a fine crop of strawberries and in the profit derived from the same.

M. JACK.

## The Poultry Yard.

*A chapter on Turkeys.—The Best and largest Breed for the farmer.—  
How to mate and breed.—The proper care and food  
young birds.*

—(A. G. GILBERT.)—

Active work at Farmers' Institute meetings, for some time past, has prevented me from having the pleasure of writing to your paper on poultry matters, as I have so frequently had the pleasure of doing. The arrangement of a complete system of cold storage,—by car or by steamboat—from many points in Canada to the British markets, by the Dominion Minister of Agriculture has opened a very large market for a superior quality of poultry and eggs to our farmers. The poultry in demand is principally turkeys, geese and chickens. But they must be all of superior quality and killed, dressed, packed and shipped so as to arrive in good order and otherwise conform to the conditions required by the British buyer. But it is evident that the farmers must first produce the birds of large size and superior quality before the shippers can be in a position to send them out of the country. What breeds make the large birds? First we take

### Turkeys.

There are six varieties of turkeys, viz: Bronze, Narragansett, White Holland, Black, Buff and Slate. Of these the Bronze is the largest and best known, next comes the White Holland. A farmer in a neighbouring township recently informed me that he had excellent results from a White Holland male crossed with his common turkey hens, But it is better, if circumstances will permit, to breed thoroughbreds. They are undoubtedly larger and, in the majority of cases, hardier. It must be remembered that it is the large bird of good condition that is wanted, in the British market, prior to the Christmas season. And where turkeys are paid for by the pound, size and weight mean money. There are several well-known breeders of Bronze turkeys in the Province of Quebec. You ask what is the best way of raising turkeys?

### How to raise young turkeys.

It must be remembered that previous to "shooting the red," the young turkeys are the most tender of all feathered fowl. After they get over that critical period they are the hardiest. It is all essential then to success that great care be taken of the young birds. The first important requisite to success is that the breeding stock be strong and vigorous. Inbreeding must be avoided. It is admissible to use a good male for two years, but do not mate a young cock with pullets of the same family. Much of the disaster so common to flocks of young turkeys may be traced to weak parent stock or inbreeding.